RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2164

Docket No.: 1538.1046

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Nobuyuki HIRATSUKA, et al.

Serial No. 10/770,392

Group Art Unit: 2164

Confirmation No. 2748

Filed: February 4, 2004

Examiner: BELL, Cory C.

For: SEARCH METHOD AND APPARATUS

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: BOX AF

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2007, and having a period for response set to expire on April 17, 2007.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.